

MARY WASHINGTON COLLEGE BULLETIN

QUARTERLY REVIEW WINTER 1969 - '70





Quarterly Review

MARY
WASHINGTON
COLLEGE

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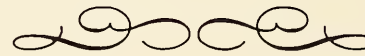
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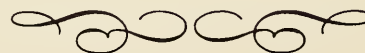


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MWC: ITS FUTURE

Now in its seventh decade as an institution of higher learning in Virginia, Mary Washington College can look back on a record of consistent growth and change. What, however, does it look forward to.

Will it continue to develop and mature in essentially the same established directions. Or, will it deviate from these paths, striking out in new directions.

If the past is considered a barometer it shows that the College has previously been amenable to change with three major changes in sixty-two years—from a state normal school to a teachers college to a liberal arts college to the women's undergraduate college of arts and sciences of the University of Virginia.

It would appear also that the impetus for change—both from within and without—is at hand, and in this time of educational revolution, the College could experience the most significant reevaluation it has yet experienced.

The question remains, however, is change necessary. And if so, what changes should be implemented and when.

It was with questions such as these in mind that Chancellor Grellet C. Simpson established the Future of the College Committee in October, 1967 and delegated to it the task of considering all facets of the future of Mary Washington College.

In instructing the Committee, Chancellor Simpson stated that any final recommendations should deal with "whatever alterations in our present government and program and purpose are needed in order that Mary Washington College will continue to be not only an outstanding institution of higher learning in the last decades of the twentieth century, but also an academic institution preparing itself to offer to its students the appropriate

and necessary intellectual guidance that students in the twenty-first century will require and find relevant in their era."

In October, 1969, following two years of exhaustive study, the Committee submitted its recommendations to the Chancellor. This issue of the *Quarterly Review* will deal with these recommendations and with other findings reported by the Committee. During the period of its deliberations, the Committee made nine interim reports containing a larger number of specific proposals "intended to initiate actions or studies that would keep Mary Washington College attuned to the evolving academic scene."

Basically there were three major areas of concern studied by the Committee: Mary Washington College's relationship with the University of Virginia; coeducation; and the academic program, including the feasibility of graduate study.

In collecting data and opinions in these three areas, the Committee sought many views, including that of the Alumnae Association's Status Study Committee, and this information was incorporated into its final report.

In addition to the three principle topics confronting the Committee, the interim reports and final findings also dealt with other related matters affecting the future of the College.

In summarizing its findings, the Committee asserted that "Mary Washington College has reason to believe in its future, particularly if the traditions, capabilities, and still youthful energies of the College can be directed toward an individual purpose and a clear identity. Given the opportunity to utilize its resources and to realize its goals, Mary Washington College could emerge a cultural and scientific center contributing, with distinction, to the educational needs of the Commonwealth of Virginia."

THE COMMITTEE:



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Arts and Speech Department*



Kurt F. Leidecker
Professor of Philosophy



Bernard L. Mahoney, Jr.
Associate Professor of Chemistry



Sidney H. Mitchell
*Professor and Chairman
of English Department*

THE RELATIONSHIP:

Mary Washington College became a part of the University in July, 1944. In January, 1943, Colgate W. Darden, Jr., in his inaugural address as Governor of Virginia, recommended that Mary Washington be made the un-

dergraduate women's college of the University.

He appointed a commission to make recommendations concerning the advisability and terms of the proposed consolidation. This group reported in December, 1943, recom-

mending the merger of Mary Washington College with the University of Virginia and outlining the procedures to be followed. The action was officially taken by the General Assembly on February, 1944.



Long a topic of discussion and speculation, Mary Washington College's relationship with the University of Virginia was considered a major area of concern and came under the early and thorough scrutiny of the Committee.

On this question the Committee was unanimous in recommending that Mary Washington continue its present role within the University System.

In this relationship Mary Washington has been described as a "semi-autonomous" college of the University. The affiliation with the University of Virginia is essentially at the policy-making level. The Rector and Visitors of the University is the governing body of the College; one of its standing committees is the Mary Washington Committee, which is especially concerned with the affairs of the College. The President of the University is the administrative head of all divisions of the University; the Chancellor of Mary Washington College is the executive head of this institution.

Mary Washington College has its own budget, its own salary schedule, and its own policies and procedures, subject to approval by the governing body of the University. The faculty in Fredericksburg is independent of the University faculty in Charlottesville. Faculty appointments and promotions, curriculum changes, budget allocations, building programs, and all

the manifold operations of the College proceed under the general direction of the Chancellor, who is the line of communication between the College and the President and Visitors of the University.

The coordinate college status of Mary Washington received a thorough reappraisal once before—by the Virginia Higher Education Study Commission. In the staff report issued in 1965 (the Russell Report), the Commission noted that Mary Washington's relationship with the University was the "only contravention of the general policy of a separate Board of Visitors for each four-year degree-granting institution in Virginia," and while it recommended that "consideration should be given to bringing this institution in line with the general policy," it added that such consideration was "not a matter of urgent importance."

After an initial appraisal of this vital question, the Future of the College Committee proposed in its *Interim Report of June 7, 1968*, that the College "indicate its willingness to continue to work within the University for the continued development and improvement of Mary Washington College."

In its final report, the present study group reaffirmed its earlier conclusion, noting that "not only Mary Washington College but the entire University and the State benefit from

this present relationship." The Committee further asserted that "no change is necessary so long as the College remains, as it is now, a self-governing unit of the University."

The Committee also made the following observations and recommendations:

"That despite some inadequacies in the present relationship, Mary Washington College has reaped many benefits from its connection with the University of Virginia.

That the natural evolution of both institutions, and of other institutions within the University of Virginia system, make an eventual severance of the connection a possibility.

That the College should prepare itself for the contingency of separation.

That should such a separation occur Mary Washington College will survive and prosper.

That Mary Washington College would not derive any benefit from hastening such a separation, and might well deprive itself of further benefit should it initiate at this time a movement towards separation.

That Mary Washington College should reaffirm its awareness of how greatly it has profited by its link with the University of Virginia, and indicate its willingness to continue to work within the University for the continual development and improvement of Mary Washington College."

COEDUCATION ♂ ♀

Coeducation was introduced at Mary Washington College with the 1946-47 academic session, when 32 veterans were permitted to enroll for classes the first semester and 22 the second semester.

In June, 1948, Robert Miller and Robert H. Combs became the first men to receive degrees from the college.

Veterans continued to attend the College in dwindling numbers in the years between World War II and the Korean Conflict. Following the Korean War there was another influx of returning servicemen, who were permitted to enroll.

This page in the College's history was turned in June, 1958, when Dennis Moriarity, the last remaining male student, received his degree.



On the subject of the role of male students in the future of Mary Washington College, the opinion of the Committee underwent a gradual but consistent evolution.

In its *Interim Report of November 14, 1968*, the Committee proposed that Mary Washington College offer credit to non-residential men students in the summer sessions, beginning in June of 1969. In making such a recommendation the Committee noted the problem of decreasing enrollment in the summer sessions at Mary Washington and expressed the belief that the absence of a coeducational program was an important factor in this decline.

Other factors contributing to the decline, and noted by the Committee, included the lack of air conditioning and the rise of colleges within commuting distance of large numbers of students.

Introduction of coeducation on this scale, the Committee stated, "should not introduce any problems regarding the present facilities." The Committee also felt that "courses offered to both men and women will not only increase the enrollment but will also provide a much needed service to the community, foster a variety of specialized courses, and encourage the

establishment of special institutes and seminars."

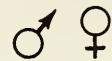
With the approval of the Chancellor and the Board of Visitors of the University this proposal was implemented in the summer session of 1969 when 55 male students enrolled for classes.

The implementation of this proposal brought a rise in the summer session enrollment which was 371 in 1969 compared to 345 in 1968. Although there had been a decline in enrollment in the summer session, this has not been experienced in the regular session. For the current session, for example, the College was filled to capacity and there was a waiting list for last minute openings.

Following this initial proposal the Committee, in their *Interim Report of March 21, 1969*, further proposed that the administration seek the authority to admit men as nonresidential students to all sessions of the College. The rationale supporting this recommendation was much the same as that in favor of admitting men to the summer session, particularly the arguments that approval of such a recommendation would offer the College an opportunity to provide a valuable community service and that the presence of a limited number of male students would not appreciably alter the all-female status of the institution.

The Committee expressed the belief that "additional steps towards an increased role for men at Mary Wash-

ington should be anticipated" and it urged the College "to foresee this need to the extent of planning for the enrollment of men in other than a nonresidential status."



On December 18 Chancellor Grellet C. Simpson announced that the 1970 General Assembly will be asked to remove any language from the Code of Virginia, Section 23, 86, creating MWC in 1944 as the undergraduate college of arts and sciences for women of the University, which could be construed as making the enrollment of male students illegal.

Chancellor Simpson's statement came in response to State Senator Harry Michael's announcement in the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court on December 17 that "Mary Washington is responding favorably now to male applications." Michael was serving as legal counsel for the University of Virginia in a suit brought by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of four Charlottesville women who sought admission this past September to the University's formally all-male undergraduate college of arts and sciences.

The Chancellor indicated that Mary Washington would accept applications for the 1970-71 session from male students but that any plans for implementing their enrollment would have to be worked out between college officials and the Board of Visitors.



THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM:

In considering the academic program the Committee foresaw the need for a detailed and comprehensive curricular review and proposed in its Interim Report of April 23, 1969, the formation of an ad hoc committee that would include student representation. Listed in the proposal for re-study were (1) the curricular offerings and degree requirements; (2) the academic calendar; (3) the number and kinds of courses that should constitute a student program; (4) the number and type of courses that should constitute a teaching schedule.

Such a committee was created by faculty action in May, 1969, and is now studying these items.

This was just one of many recommendations by the Committee concerning the academic program.



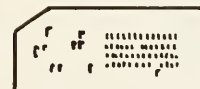
GRADUATE CREDIT

On the question of graduate credit the Committee recommended that Mary Washington College seek the necessary approval, and the consequent opportunity to include in its curriculum a limited number of graduate level courses.

Such courses, the Committee suggested, might answer the needs of graduate students in search of summer-session programs consistent with their educational interests and professional advancement; or they might be distributed throughout the regular session of the College, perhaps being scheduled during evening and Saturday hours to the advantage of adults in the local community and surrounding areas. The proposal was projected one step further when the group foresaw the possibility that sequences of related courses could lead to graduate degrees conferred by the College.

In making this recommendation the Committee emphasized that it was not concerned with an indiscriminate, sprawling extension of the College's current functions. It noted that, "the offering of graduate courses within any single department must be contingent upon the availability of a fully qualified faculty, the accessibility of appropriate facilities and equipment, and the acceptance of closely controlled supervision from within the College."

Finally, the Committee asserted, "the recommendation carries no implication whatsoever of deviation from a firm commitment to the primary purpose of the College." The addition of graduate courses, the Committee concluded, should not be allowed to jeopardize that purpose, as to disintegrate the strength needed in support of undergraduate liberal arts education.



NEW FIELDS OF STUDY

Early in its existence, the Committee agreed that courses and programs should be established or strengthened in the areas of: (1) urban problems and racial relations; (2) automation and computer sciences; (3) problems of developing nations.

The recommendation was based on a concern about the relevance of the College's program to major social questions facing twentieth century American society. In making this recommendation the Committee also urged departmental reevaluations in the continuing quest for relevance.

In its *Interim Report of July 7, 1969*, the Committee made a more detailed recommendation concerning the need for a computer science program at Mary Washington College.

The Committee stated that "because of the tremendous role computer science now plays in our society and because of its impact on education, Mary Washington College cannot afford to neglect the need for facilities, personnel and instruction in this area."

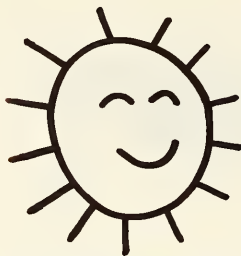
In order for computer science to become an integral part of the educational program here, the Committee recommended that an immediate study of the needs of the College should be undertaken with consideration given to the establishment of a permanent position for a computer scientist, whose major responsibilities would be the development of both instructional and consulting programs for faculty, staff and students.

The Committee recognized that in the past the prohibitive cost of computer facilities restricted their use to large industries and major university centers, but stated that now "the increased availability of remote terminals, time-sharing programs and asso-

THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM: Continued

ciated data processing equipment has reduced the costs of computer time to such an extent that even the smallest colleges and some of the more progressive secondary schools are using computer facilities on a routine basis for instructional and administrative purposes.

The report also called attention to the computer course offered at Mary Washington last year with the cooperation of Randolph-Macon College. It explained, however, that the lack of the necessary remote terminals for computer access on the campus and the absence of a full-time instructor have hampered the success of the program this year.



SUMMER SESSION

The Committee dealt with the College's summer session in its *Interim Report of July 2, 1969*. In this report it was recommended that Mary Washington develop a program of summer institutes and workshops in selected areas as soon as possible.

While the Committee did not detail the specific departmental or inter-departmental grouping which should initiate such programs, it did envision maximum flexibility with respect to the form, content, and duration of such institutes and workshops.

In addition, the Committee made the following observations to serve as broad guidelines in the development of such programs:

1) The development of any programs would necessarily be closely related to development plans for the summer session programs as a whole with respect to both curriculum and facilities. For example, the Long Range Planning Committee of Mary Washington College noted in its 1963 report that "... air conditioning in at least some of the classrooms used for summer school instruction ... would be an almost essential precondition to any special institutes or programs designed to draw nationally important instructors."

2) While the Committee felt it unnecessary to designate specific disciplines for which summer institutes and workshops would be most appropriate, certain distinctive features of Mary Washington's facilities and location did suggest a few areas which might be actively explored. For example, Mary Washington's facilities indicate possibilities for special programs in drama and music, while the proximity of Washington, D. C., suggests institutes, workshops or summer intern programs in the area of government, foreign affairs and area studies.

3) Insofar as possible, summer institutes and workshops should be coordinated with the normal summer session on matters of scheduling and enrollment. Qualified summer students should be permitted to register in appropriate institutes and workshops and vice versa.

In making its recommendation, the Committee listed the following principal reasons:

a) the strengthening and enrichment of the total academic and cultural program at the College.

b) the reciprocal enhancement of the summer school program.

c) increased utilization of existing facilities at the College.

d) the further development of the College as an intellectual, cultural, and scientific training center for this region of Virginia.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE

In the *Interim Report of March 23, 1969*, it was recommended that the various segments of the College community at Mary Washington College be given a greater role in the selection of a successor to the present Chancellor.

This proposal came after it was established that there apparently were no guidelines which would — or could—be followed by the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia in selecting future chief administrators of Mary Washington College.

With the thought in mind that a statement of procedure might be useful, the Committee unanimously approved the following motion:

"In view of the national tendency to give faculties and students in higher educational institutions more responsibilities in administrative affairs and decisions, it is recommended that the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia include Mary Washington College administrative, faculty, student, and alumnae representatives on any committee or group selecting a successor to the present Chancellor."

This recommendation, although in slightly different form, was approved by the Board of Visitors on December 6, 1969.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

In the *Interim Report of January 22, 1969*, the Committee suggested that Mary Washington College provide a salaried position for a coordinator of institution development and planning. The full time effort of one person was deemed necessary for the explanation of opportunities available through outside assistance, Federal and other, for the heightening of teaching and plant efficiency.

Specific duties of such a coordinator should be to:

A. Search State and Federal publications as well as educational and related literature for opportunities to tap financial sources or benefit by associations, consortia and other organizations offering advantages to our academic programs and physical plant;

B. Establish contact and keep in touch with agencies, foundations and individuals involved in granting of aid, subsidies, scholarships, fellowships and other means of individual and institutional development and improvement;

C. Ascertain from faculty members and departments their interests and appraise them of the availability of funds, grants-in-aid for study and research, as well as other opportunities, such as summer institutes and special programs whereby they may contribute to their own and the College's progressive development;

D. Help draft applications and make proposals, furnish the administrative and budgetary data required, supervise the technique and terminology of proper presentation, make final revisions of all applications and serve as liaison between faculty and administration;

E. Follow through with applications, establish procedures, watch deadlines, check feasibilities and programming as well as financial provisions and arrangements;

F. Oversee the implementation of grants and projects, scrutinize progress reports, assist in accounting and bring all undertakings and contracts to a satisfactory termination;

G. Act as liaison between the College and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

FUTURE AREAS OF CONCERN

In addition to the Committee's recommendations and observations on a large variety of matters concerning the future of the college, there were a number of areas which the members felt should be called to the attention of the Chancellor or Board of Visitors as potential subjects for further study by committees or individuals.

In commenting on matters concerning the faculty the Committee recognized that the College is currently doing everything possible to keep both teaching and non-teaching salaries competitive. There must be, the Committee stated, "a constant effort to insure a superior faculty and staff." Also, it added, "an effort should be directed toward finding private funds—as in the case of the Alumnae Association's Quest XX program—to make possible supplemental salary grants. It also urged that the College strive to achieve, as soon as possible, a teaching schedule that would insure the highest quality of instruction and allow the College to remain competitive with other leading liberal arts colleges.

On the subject of scholarships the Committee stated that Mary Washington should attempt to establish more scholarships for out-of-state residents. It should also seek, as previously stated, to find private resources which could be used, without restriction, for increased financial aid to upperclassmen who qualify on the basis of scholarship alone.

The Committee also dealt with community service, recommending the formation of a special standing committee to consider the proper relationship of the College to Fredericksburg and the surrounding area.

OPINION:

FACULTY

In attempting to evaluate the future role of Mary Washington College, the Committee asked for faculty response to the following: 1) Should Mary Washington continue as an institution exclusively for women? 2) Do you feel that our present relationship as a coordinate College of the University of Virginia is a satisfactory one; and 3) What two or three suggestions do you wish to make concerning the most appropriate course for Mary Washington College to follow in the years ahead. There was a 53 percent response to the query.

In answering the first question 53 percent of those responding expressed a desire for co-education, while 34 percent preferred for Mary Washington to remain single-sex, and 14 percent expressed no preference.

Reasons given for wishing to remain a woman's college included the uniqueness of being a state-aided liberal arts college for women; the feeling that students in a single-sex school are freed from social/sexual distractions; the fear that admitting men might result in a general lowering of the standards and an intellectual imbalance of strong women and weaker men; the feeling that physical problems would arise if men were admitted as well as problems relating to the name, seal, and the conviction that variety in kinds of possible education is a positive good—that students should have the choice that Mary Washington's existence gives them.

The supporting reasons listed by those in favor of co-education included the opinion that it is inevitable, both legally and by educational evolution; that it is the norm in education today; that it is healthier psychologically for students; and that it is academically enriching to have both sexes in the classroom.

Other reasons cited included the feeling that women's schools confront financial problems male schools are not subject to; that a co-educational institution would serve the community and state better; that no benefits are currently derived from the connection with the University as a single-sex institution; and that applications to

women's colleges are now declining.

On the second question, 45 percent of the respondents felt that the present relationship with the University of Virginia was an unsatisfactory one, while 29 percent expressed satisfaction with the co-ordinate status and 10 percent gave no opinion.

The majority of the "yes" answers were based on the prestige factor as being the strongest point in Mary Washington's relationship with the University. The "no" answers were attributed mainly to the opinion that Mary Washington was not truly a co-ordinate college in terms of having the same fringe benefits and freedom of action as the University.

The third question elicited a variety of responses, covering nearly every facet of the College and its programs. Among the most significant were the opinions that Mary Washington should remain a quality liberal arts college and should maintain enrollment at a fixed limit.

In suggestions concurring with committee recommendations faculty members felt that graduate credit should be offered in a limited number of departments that were prepared to handle such programs; that the Summer Session program should be improved; that an Asian Studies program should be developed; and that scholarship programs should be improved.

Other comments included requests to consider changing to a quarter or trimester system; to revamp degree requirements; to attract more qualified Negroes; to increase faculty and non-teaching salaries and reduce teaching loads; to provide time for faculty research; and to raise the intellectual standards of courses (do not repeat high school courses).

STUDENTS

The following report was written by Charles A. Sletten Professor of Sociology, on *A Survey of Student Views about Mary Washington College, February-March 1969*.

The students at Mary Washington would prefer by a wide margin, 59.5 percent to 31.6 percent, that the College remain a women's college. About 70 percent would like to retain the affiliation with the University. However, since 70 percent of these want Mary Washington to remain the women's college of the University, the percentage desiring affiliation may decline if this status is not possible.

About equal numbers would like for the College (1) to remain the same size or become smaller and (2) to increase the enrollment. However, about 80 percent of those who would like the enrollment increased want this done if academic standards are improved. A somewhat larger number would prefer the present size than increased enrollment with academic improvement. No one wants enrollment increased at the expense of academic standards.

A large majority of students (72.8 percent) would like for Mary Washington College to admit more Negroes, but an even larger majority (90.4 percent) are opposed to lowering admission standards in order to do so.

Most students made the decision themselves to come to Mary Washington College, and preferred it to other colleges. About 69 percent of the students have thought of transferring, and about 26 percent are thinking of transferring now. Most students (54.2 percent) would return to Mary Washington College, but only a minority of the seniors would. Of the major programs at the College with a large number of students, sociology and mathematics seem relatively successful in retaining the loyalty of their senior students, while English and psychology do not.

The responses to the questionnaire in general, and to the question of what should be changed at Mary Washington in particular, indicate that the students are primarily con-

cerned with improving the quality of the College and increasing the freedom of the students, academically and socially. They are concerned with getting and keeping capable professional teachers and with improving the courses and particularly with strengthening the existing major programs at the College. The students want Mary Washington College to become a college where young women can live with greater freedom and be taught and learn more effectively the major aspect of human knowledge and culture.

ALUMNAE

In its deliberations the Future of the College Committee sought the views and opinions of a number of other individuals and groups and one such group was the Alumnae Association's Status Study Committee.

Established in 1966, the Status Study Committee was formed to evaluate the status of Mary Washington College in terms of national and state developments in higher education and to offer suggestions on what it felt was best for the College.

Current members of the Status Study Committee include Mrs. **Adele Crowgey** Giles '37, Chairman; Mrs. **Arabelle Laws** Arrington '41; Mrs. **Irene Lundy** Brown '39; Mrs. **Mary James Fisher** '46; Mrs. **Rose Bennett** Gilbert '60; Mrs. **Bonnie Davis** Hall '60; Mrs. **Kathy Friedman** Levinson '63; Mrs. **Jane Howard** Patrick '48; Mrs. **Camilla Moody** Payne '29; Mrs. **Peggy Kelley** Reinburg '58; and Miss **Ann Perinchief** '67.

During the two year period of study, the Future of the College Committee consulted with its counterpart in the Alumnae Association and there was a mutual exchange of information and opinions between the two groups.

In January, 1969, the Status Study Committee issued an interim report expressing its views on many of the matters being considered by the Future of the College Committee.

The alumnae group prefaced its suggestions by stating that "there are areas in which we are interested but feel we should not become involved, mainly because we consider ourselves unqualified to pass judgment—i.e., decisions on whether the College can or should offer graduate courses and which departments are stronger; curriculum development; degree requirements and whether a semester, quarter or trimester system is best; and personnel policies and staffing. Since our training and/or information is inadequate to form educated opinions, we feel many of these matters come under the province of able knowledgeable administrators and teachers."

The Committee added that, "if we

feel this inadequacy, we seriously question the student's ability to make final decisions. Recognizing that they are more closely involved and in a better position to see needs, we think their suggestions should be given consideration, but believe the students should and must be made to realize that in the final analysis, the decisions should be made by those professionally trained and employed to make wise judgments."

While the Committee did not specifically consider the possibility of offering graduate credit at Mary Washington it did recommend that if graduate work is offered, it be started with limited courses given by qualified departments and not become essentially a teacher certification or training program, but place the emphasis on liberal arts as is now done in the undergraduate offerings.

The Committee, in addition, expressed a desire that Mary Washington remain a quality liberal arts college of limited size and that every effort should be made to attract and retain a first-rate faculty and to maintain a healthy student faculty ratio.

The Committee also recognized the trend toward co-education today, but stated that ample opportunity is now being given to those who choose this type of institution and that the same opportunity should be provided those desiring a quality, sexually segregated college such as Mary Washington. It was the strong desire of the group that Mary Washington remain a liberal arts college for women—however, it did approve of admitting a limited number of qualified men to classes as special students on a non-residential basis. It also suggested that consideration might be given to exchange programs with nearby men's colleges.

In concluding the Committee praised the manner in which integration has been started at Mary Washington and stated their belief that no fully qualified person should be denied the opportunity to study, teach, or serve Mary Washington College, in any capacity, because of his or her race, color, or creed.



Brompton

Brompton, the home of the Mary Washington College Chancellor, has been called one of the loveliest residences on any American campus today, and certainly it can lay claim to being one of the most historically significant.

Overlooking the city of Fredericksburg from Marye's Heights, Brompton was the focal point of two Civil War Battles and figured in a third. It became the residence of the Chancellor of the College following the purchase and restoration of the estate by the state of Virginia in 1947.

In addition to the forgotten mansion the state purchased 174 acres of adjacent land which now comprise the Brompton grounds and the Mary Washington golf course. All of what now is part of the College once belonged to Fielding Lewis, George Washington's brother-in-law.

The property changed hands several times before being purchased in 1821 by John Lawrence Marye, from whom the heights got its name.

Brompton was named for a small settlement in England which offered sanctuary to the Reverend James Marye, grandfather of John Lawrence Marye, when he emigrated from France in the beginning of the eighteenth century. Shortly thereafter the elder Marye moved to America and settled in Fredericksburg, where he taught school and served as rector of St. George's Episcopal Church.

Historians are not precise about the exact date of the original Brompton building, but they have established conclusively that the mansion was built in several stages.

One source states that Brompton is in its entirety a post-revolutionary house, while at least one other source records that the central portion was built about 1740. In either case, Marye is given credit for building around this core; completing all additions by about 1840.

The core, or original section, consisted of a four-room, two-story building in the center of the enlarged complex. Additions included the two first-floor rooms to the West and those directly above which were built about 1820; the entrance hall with rooms above and two, one-story end wings were added in about 1840; and a two-story portico with a flat roof was added shortly thereafter. The adjoining clapboard structures which now serve as the dining room, kitchen and guest quarters were probably constructed about the same time. The only major change implemented since the Civil War has been the peaked roof portico.

Historically, the Marye House or Brompton, is known because it was the center of the attack on Marye's Heights during the battles of Fredericksburg. In December, 1862, it was a fortified Confederate position manned by men under General Longstreet's command. Across the Rappahannock, Federal General Burnside besieged Fredericksburg. In the first encounter, the aggregate number of men present, in the two armies (234,311), was the largest ever engaged in combat on the American continent and it resulted in the loss of 12,653 Federal soldiers and 5,309 confederate losses.

The Second Battle of Fredericksburg came the next year; this time the Federal army took possession of the house, which as a result of the war, was a bullet-riddled shell. The marks of this onslaught remain evident today in the columns of the portico, the brick walls and the sidings of the dependent buildings. Also, evident are the

Continued on page 13





*Above: In 1876
Left: During the War
Below: In 1945, MWC purchased Brompton*



trenches along the crest of the heights and the stone wall, behind which the Confederate troops were positioned along Sunken Road at the foot of the hill, is still standing.

Brompton was used for military purposes frequently thereafter. Matthew Brady's wartime pictures show it as a hospital or dressing station for the wounded of the Union Army during the Wilderness-Spotsylvania battles in 1864. In one of the pictures the wounded lie under the trees of the law and against the house. The great white oak shown in the picture still stands today and is known as the Brompton Oak.

Many other incidents were recorded in history from the battles which occurred in the vicinity of Brompton; the most notable, perhaps, being the story of the heroic exploits of Confederate Sergeant Richard Kirkland of South Carolina, who risked his life to give aid and comfort to the soldiers of both sides who lay wounded on the field in front of the stone wall. A statue sculpted by Felix deWeldon, the creator of the famed Iwo Jima statue, stands at the foot of the hill in front of Brompton, memorializing this lone combatant's compassion.

Following the war, repairs were made to the building and it once more became a residence with the surrounding land devoted to farming. The property was owned by John G. Lane and his heirs from 1873 until 1887 when it was purchased by Maurice B. Rowe, and it remained in the hands of the Rowe family until it was purchased by the State of Virginia in 1947.

Following extensive restoration, the house became the residence of Mary Washington College President Morgan L. Combs and his successor, the present Chancellor, Grellet C. Simpson.

Emphasized in the restoration were the best details of the three periods represented at Brompton—the Early American, Georgian, and Greek Revival. Advisor for the project was internationally-known interior decorator Nancy McClelland of New York. Franco Scalamandre, also of New York, who wove the silken draperies for Monticello and played an important part in the Williamsburg restoration, presented Brompton with woven wall coveries of damask and matching drapery materials. Another Williamsburg artist, Ernest Lo Nano, undertook the proper designing and hanging of the draperies.

As the Chancellor's home, Brompton is the center of many of the College's social events. Each year the academic session begins with a reception by Dr. and Mrs. Simpson for the incoming freshmen and for the new members of faculty and staff. The year ends with a massive reception and buffet on the grounds for the graduating seniors, their parents and guests, the alumnae and other guests of the College. It is the site of numerous other receptions and events during each school year, and in the spring and fall the well kept gardens are visited by many of the students, not to mention numerous tourists.

In furnishing the residence, Dr. and Mrs. Simpson have created a balance between the old and the new—the past and the present—by placing contemporary paintings and art with furniture from various preceding periods. In addition to furniture owned by the Simpsons and by the College, a number of the pieces are from the Gari Melchers estate, which is administered by the College, and a number of paintings by Melchers are on display in the house.





SPOTSWOOD SPOTLIGHT

The President Reports

At the fall meeting of the board of Directors, held in October, I had the pleasure of announcing committee appointments for 1969-1970. Mrs. **Arabelle Laws** Arrington will serve as Finance Chairman. In this position Arabelle joins **Ruby York** Weinbrecht (Alumnae Fund Chairman), **Judy Townsend** Gatlin (Homecoming Chairman), Olivia ("Bill") **Wheeler** McCallum (Alumnae Council Chairman), **Ann Perinchief** and me on the Executive Committee. In addition, I was delighted to announce that **Clara Boyd Wheeler** had agreed to serve as Chairman of the Distinguished Alumna Award Committee. The Nomination-Election Committee chooses its own chairman; I will serve as the presiding member of the Nominations to the Board of Visitors Committee; and the appointment of a chairman for the Student-Alumnae Committee will be announced later. While the position does not involve a committee, it seems logical to tell you at this point that Ann Perinchief will serve as parliamentarian.

The major business conducted by the Board involved changes in the Bylaws of the Association. The Directors approved a change in title from "Executive Secretary" to "Director of Alumnae Affairs" and made the person in this position an adviser to all standing committees. Thus, the person in charge of the Spotswood office will no longer be a member of these committees will serve as a professional staff person to offer assistance. The Board also approved a change in the fiscal year to July 1-June 30. In coordination with this change, provision was also made for chapter reports to be submitted by

June 30 of each year.

"Bill" McCallum reported that the Alumnae Council Committee would include eleven to fifteen members; some had already accepted. The committee, in its mission to evaluate the Council structure and chapter relations, has already surveyed other colleges and universities. This information will be added to suggestions from chapters for final study. The committee hopes to make its recommendations to the Board by June, 1970.

By now you know that the Alumnae Fund goal for this year has been set at \$40,000.00. While it is still too early to tell, we are hoping that new methods of solicitation (and your generosity!) will let us reach our goal.

I hope that each of you had a happy holiday and I send our best wishes for the new year.

Kathy F. Levinson '63

CHAPTER NOTES

The Eastern Shore Chapter held its annual covered dish luncheon at the home of Mrs. **Margaret Lodge Copes**, Davis Wharf, on September 13, 1969. Miss **Ann Perinchief**, Director of Alumnae Affairs, spoke to the chapter about the activities of the Alumnae Association. The chapter will meet again next year for the same event in early September.

Members of the Alumnae Association from the Eastern Shore wish to express their congratulations to Mrs. Copes, who was elected first woman chairman of the State Hospital Board this year.

The activities of the Fredericksburg Chapter have included a banquet at the Princess Anne Inn on October 20, 1969 and a stay-at-home night in November. The latter was the money-making project for the group. Tickets for the evening were sold to residents of the community and calls were made to a number of people on the appointed evening to inform them that they had won one of the prizes of homemade "goodies" and needlecraft. The project, which was handled by **Gail Jargowsky Morrison**, earned \$71.00.

The December program for the chapter consisted of a Christmas show presented by Vepco on the making of Christmas decorations and table settings. The spring meeting for the Fredericksburg group will include the presentation of its award to a Mary Washington student. The chapter's activities will conclude with a family picnic at Hazelwild Farm on Wednesday, May 13, 1970 at 6:30 p.m.

The Fredericksburg Chapter wishes to congratulate Miss **Isabel Gordon**, who was honored recently by being named to the 1969 edition of **Outstanding Personalities of the South**. Recognition is made on the basis of

outstanding past achievements, ability, and service to the community and state.

On December 6, 1969 the Norfolk Chapter held a luncheon which featured Mrs. C. A. Bamforth's demonstration of Christmas projects. The covered dish luncheon was held in the banquet room of the Atlantic Permanent Savings and Loan Building in Virginia Beach. Mrs. C. E. Treakle will speak to the group about an African safari at the Lafayette Yacht Club in Norfolk on January 17, 1970 at 12:30 p.m. March will feature another covered dish luncheon at the home of Miss **Dorothy Shumadine**, 1310 Cedar Lane, Norfolk, Va. The program will be an alumnae arts and crafts show. On May 16, 1970 the Norfolk group will conclude its year with the annual mother-daughter luncheon. The chapter will be the guests of Mrs. Ruth Garrett, 716 Sterling Point Drive, Portsmouth. Officers will be installed and Mrs. Garrett will speak on Japan.

Peninsula area alumnae held a tea for freshmen and returning students in September at the home of Mrs. **Olivia Wheeler McCallum**. Tina Convery, president of Westmoreland Hall, spoke to the incoming freshmen about life at MWC. The chapter enjoyed a covered dish supper at the home of Mrs. **Anne Patten Bland** in October. Remaining activities for the group include a bridge-fashion show in February, a luncheon in March featuring a speaker on floral arranging, and a May dinner for alumnae, their husbands and guests.

The second meeting of the Southern California Chapter was held at the Atlantis Restaurant in Mission Bay, San Diego. Presiding at the luncheon was **Judi Smith Hermanson**. Secretary **Barbara "Linkey" Booth Wilhelm** gave each member a roster. The pro-

gram was presented by Mr. Hal White, a broker with Blyth and Company, who gave an illustrated talk on "The Market and Stock Investments." Members of the recently organized group in attendance included **Mildred Donaldson Rolander '41**, "**Corky**" **Slater Gray '56**, **Judith Wolfe Allen '62**, **Eleanor Donovan Kerr '42**, **Caryl de Moraes Gardner '42**, **Isabel Elliot Taylor '42**, **Betty Rogers Zylewitz '43**, **Gloria Winslow Borden '59**, **Barbara Clark Fowler '56**, **Hermie Gross Fox '56**, **Susie Heap Trent '56**, **Sue Lukehart Hallden '62**, **Elizabeth Lydle '63**, **Lani St. John Rakow '63**, **Cathy Foster Wilde '63**, **Judi Itchek de Pagter '64**, **Dru Austin King '65**, **Cheryle Comstock Martin '65** and **Robbie Bachrach Brady '68**.

In preparation for the annual Scholarship Bazaar sponsored by the Council of Women's College Clubs in Westchester, New York, the Westchester-Fairfield Chapter had several workshops. The Bazaar was held at the YWCA in White Plains on November 14, 1969. Virtually all of the prominent women's colleges were represented and the occasion afforded an opportunity for fund raising. Mary Washington sold flower arrangements and Christmas decorations. **Barbara Cuneo Olsen '59** put together some lovely dried flower arrangements with the assistance of **Bea Cressman MacLetchie '60**, **Gail Relling Stockton '61**, **Florence Cuneo Frascati '61**, and **Frances Inglis Russo '44**. **Kathy McAllenney Lazo '62** was in charge of Christmas decorations. Working with her were **Nancy Weston Wells '62**, **Cynthia Waldron '68** and **Cynthia Hapke Biagiotti '58**.

Members of the Westchester-Fairfield Chapter will join other alumnae for the annual University Women's Forum in New York City on February 28, 1970.

BIRTHS

- '61 John and **Marion Murlless** Phillips, third child, first son, John Alden, Jr., August 16, 1969.
- '61 Martin and **Barbara Upson** Gravely, second child, first son, Robert Martin, August 13, 1969.
- '62 Gordon and **Linda DeAlba** Scott, a daughter, Cynthia Gayle, August, 1969.
- '63 Robert and **Betty Ailstock** Hall, a son, January, 1969.
- '63 Bill and **Alice Eckenrode** Alkire, a daughter, Pamela Jane, November 21, 1969.
- '63 Harold and **Catherine Foster** Wilde, first child, a daughter, Sarah Catherine, April 5, 1969.
- '63 Bill and **Marna Harlow** Cordle, a son, William H., III, August 23, 1968.
- '63 Donald and **Joyce Rogers** Haddock, a son, David Stanford, July 17, 1969.
- '63 Joel and **Nancy Slonim** Aronie, first child, a son, Josh, October 18, 1969.
- '63 J. T. and **Jewel West** Norman, a son, Matthew, February, 1969.
- '64 Tom and **Marie Alford** Aker, a daughter, Amy Louise, April 8, 1969. She has a sister, Debbie, age 4.
- '64 Kenneth and **Joanne Frank** Lee, a daughter, Maria Dawn, August 8, her mother's birthday.
- '64 Benjamin and **Carol Major** Smith, first child, a daughter, Charlotte Pinder, August 29, 1969.
- '64 Carroll and **Caroline Ridgely** Hayden, Colin Ridgely.
- '64 Jay and **Reva Sheehan** Cox, first child, a son, Jay Sheridan, August 20, 1969 in Portland, Ore.
- '64 Benny and **Nancy Via** Firestone, a son, Raymond Bennett Firestone, Jr., August 3, 1969.
- '65 Bill and **Kathy Burke** House, a daughter, Susan Russell, July 16, 1969.
- '65 Floyd and **Dorothea Welch** McIntosh, a son, Bryan Neal, August 27, 1969.
- '66 Kenneth and **Ginny Bateman** Hewitt, first child, a son, Scott Kenneth, August 25, 1969.
- '66 Tracy and **Marilyn Wood** Hunter second child, a son, Brian Scott, July 31, 1969. Sister Stephanie is now 2.
- '67 Dee Dee **Nottingham** Ward, second son, Bently Gardner, August 27, 1969.
- '68 Russell and **Janet Davis** Brahm, a daughter, Alison.
- '68 Joe and **Lissa DeShazo** Willis, a daughter, Jennifer Sharrett, November 9, 1969.
- '69 Jim and **Darriel Webster** Fulks, a girl, Kim, in Green Bay, Wisconsin.
- '66 Sandra **Marcyne Jones** to John Peter Lynne on August 2, 1969 in Ashland, Virginia.
- '66 Dale **Quel** to Clyde Woods, Capt. USMC, July 26, 1969. They are living in Woodbridge.
- '68 Roberta ("Robbie") **Bachrach** to Ward Brady, Lt. (j.g.) USN, August 24, 1969.
- '68 Lynn **Belcher** to Carl Smith, August 23, 1969.
- '68 Stephanie **Danahy** to James Freeman Shelhorse, May 29, 1969.
- '68 Amy **Danforth** to Bryan Shar-ratt, September 6, 1969.
- '68 Julia **Deane** to Richard Webb, Lt. USMC, December 8, 1968.
- '68 Anne **Grant** to Gregory Dunn, July 26, 1969.
- '68 Carolyn **Monti** to Larry Turnball.
- '68 Merrilyn **Sawyer** to G. Stephen Dodson.
- '68 Lelia **Shields** to Stewart Evans.
- '68 Diana **Stamer** to Donald J. Fitzgerald.
- '69 Betty **Olander** to Alec Adams, Lt. USMC.
- '69 Joan **Pervier** to Robert Bollenbacher, July, 1969.
- '69 Chris **Phillips** to Bill Farhood, October, 1969.
- '69 Frances **Smith** to Chris Armstrong, November, 1969.
- '70 Conde **Palmore** to Ron Hopkins, August, 1969 in Ashland, Virginia.

MARRIAGES

- '63 Peggy **Palmer** to Nick Valdreggi, August 9, 1969 in Richmond, Virginia.
- '64 Joyce **Liggett** to Thomas Walter Tollinger
- '64 Pat **Prewitt** to Dr. John R. Pausivinski, August 2, 1969 in Washington, D. C.
- '64 Carol **Thompson** to Tommy Faulkner.
- '64 Lavinia ("Bunnie") **Winston** to Fred Williams.
- '65 Judy **Askew** to John Auburn Mills, III of Richmond, fall, 1969.
- '65 Diane **Dodson** to Samuel Henry Ellis, Lt. USN, December 27, 1969.
- '65 Betty **MacCubbin** to Jack Bader, August 10, 1968.
- '66 Kay **Dawson** to Jesse Lawrence Meyers, Jr., Nov. 29, 1969.
- '66 Kathi **Gelsleichter** to Robert Rottiers, Lt. USAF, August 30, 1969. He is stationed at the Pentagon, and she works for the Library of Congress.

DEATHS

The members of the Alumnae Association wish to extend their sympathy to: the family of Mrs. O. Blythe Brown (Lyda Ellis '17), who died suddenly on September 13, 1969; **Marna Harlow Cordle** '63, whose husband died on March 22, 1969; the family of **Annie Davis Johnson**, '37, who passed away in April, 1969; **Cordelle Gilderdale Redmann** '53 and **Constance Gilderdale** '62 whose father, Burton Gilderdale, passed away on September 5, 1969.

Now *Then*

We should look back to see where we are going

HOMECOMING 1970

JUNE 5, 6, & 7

A NEW DECADE BEGINS



MORNING SESSION: NOW

Panel discussion on
MWC today—where we're
going, how we're changing,
what lies ahead

AFTERNOON SESSION: THEN

Rendezvous—the
light touch, with music
and laughter; an old-
fashioned, new-fashioned
rally

REUNIONS, CLASS PICTURES, SHERRY PARTY,
BROMPTON BUFFET AND PRIVATE CLASS SOIREES.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY CLASSES: 1915, 1920, 1925,
1930, 1935, 1940, 1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965

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